

BE709 AAE
 MAHATHIR-PAS R'R'R' ^{py} (P)

ALOR SETAR, NOV. 29 (BERNAMA) -- PAS IS WORKING TO CREATE DISUNITY AMONG NOT ONLY THE MALAYS BUT ALSO BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE OPPOSITION PARTY TRIED TO GET THE GOVERNMENT AND UMNO TO MAKE STATEMENTS THAT COULD CAUSE BN COMPONENT PARTIES TO RENOUNCE THEIR COALITION ARRANGEMENT WITH UMNO.

PAS HOPED THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO THESE PARTIES FORSAKING UMNO BUT IT FAILED IN THIS ATTEMPT, THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED.

HOWEVER, HE DID NOT DISCLOSE WHAT PAS TRIED TO GET THE GOVERNMENT AND UMNO TO SAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE FOUNDATION STONE-LAYING CEREMONY OF THE FOUR-STOREY \$600,000 KEDAH MIC BUILDING IN, JALAN SULTAN BADLISHAH HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER WHO IS ALSO BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN SAID THE PAS EFFORTS HAD THE AIM OF TURNING UMNO INTO AN EXTREMIST PARTY HAVING NO CONSIDERATION FOR OTHER RACES AND OTHER RELIGIONS.

+THEY HOPED BY THIS WAY TO CAUSE UMNO TO LOSE THE SUPPORT OF THE OTHER RACES WITH THE RESULT OF UMNO BEING DEFEATED AND PAS EMERGING VICTORIOUS.+

HE WAS CONFIDENT UMNO'S FRIENDS IN THE BN WERE AWARE THAT PAS INTENTIONS HAD NO RELATION WHATSOEVER WITH ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES BUT WERE POLITICAL PLOYS TO TURN BN COMPONENT PARTIES AGAINST ONE ANOTHER.

ACCORDING TO HIM, PAS WANTED UMNO WHICH HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE MALAYS TO BE IN CHAOS SO IT COULD EXPLOIT THE SITUATION.

HE HOPED THAT THE MIC AND OTHER BN PARTNERS REALIZED THE REASONS BEHIND ALL ACTIONS TAKEN BY UMNO AND THAT THIS REALIZATION WOULD HELP THE BN REMAIN STRONG TO CONTINUE TO GOVERN THE COUNTRY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WANTS ALL BN COMPONENT PARTIES TO BE WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH UMNO AND SET ASIDE SELF-INTERESTS.

+IT IS NOT UMNO'S INTENTION TO CONTROL THE MIC OR ANY OTHER BN PARTY. BUT AS THE YOUNGER BROTHERS? THEY SHOULD ACCEPT GUIDANCE FROM UMNO. WHAT IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE IS CONSIDERATION AND AN ATTITUDE OF GIVE-AND-TAKE.

+WE MUST REMEMBER THAT IN ANY ORGANIZATION OR COALITION, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO COOPERATE AND TO KNOW THAT WE CANNOT HAVE ALL OUR WISHES FULFILLED. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN WE HAVE TO ACCEPT THE VIEWS AND WISHES OF OTHERS AND TIMES WHEN OTHERS HAVE TO ACCEPT OUR VIEWS. +

HE STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN GREEDY ABOUT POWER BUT HAD BEEN PREPARED TO ACCEPT OPPOSITION PARTIES WILLING TO SHARE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTRY AND THIS ATTITUDE LED TO THE FORMATION OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

THE ALLIANCE PARTY OF THE PAST HAD GIVEN THE PPP, GERAKAN AND ALSO PAS, ALL OPPOSITION PARTIES, A PLACE IN THE RULING ADMINISTRATION, NOT BECAUSE IT LACKED SUFFICIENT PEOPLE TO LOOK AFTER THE COUNTRY BUT BECAUSE IT WAS NOT GREEDY OR POWER CRAZY.

+WE ARE WILLING TO SHARE POWER WITH OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES SO LONG AS THIS ENABLES US TO BETTER DEVOTE OUR ATTENTION TO THE WELFARE AND WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

HE REITERATED THE NEED FOR BN COMPONENT PARTIES TO AVOID OBSESSION WITH MAKING PROFITS THROUGH BUSINESS. AND INSTEAD TO THINK OF HOW TO IMPROVE THE HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE.

+BUSINESS IS ONLY SECONDARY, NOT IMPORTANT, AND SHOULD BE FORGOTTEN IF IT CONFLICTS WITH POLITICS,+ HE ADDED.

+WHAT SHOULD BE OF PRIME CONSIDERATION IS THAT WE ARE A POLITICAL PARTY INVOLVED IN POLITICS TO SERVE THE PEOPLE.

+IN THIS REGARD, I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND ALL QUARTERS TO FORGET ABOUT STATUS, BIG CARS, BUSINESS CONCERNS AND OTHER FORMS OF PROSPERITY, CONCENTRATE INSTEAD ON OUR FOREMOST TASKS AS POLITICIANS, AND REMEMBER THE PEOPLE WHO VOTED FOR US,+ HE SAID.

--BERNAMA